



President  
**Barbara J. Easterling**

Secretary-Treasurer  
**Ruben Burks**

May 20, 2010

Dear Representative/Senator:

On behalf of the four million members of the Alliance for Retired Americans, we are writing to urge your vote in support of H.R. 4213 the American Jobs, Closing Tax Loopholes and Preventing Outsourcing Act. This measure is vitally important to the lives of many individuals, including seniors.

In addition to extending unemployment and COBRA benefits, this legislation stops impending cuts to doctors under Medicare. Fixing the sustainable growth rate (SGR) is not a partisan issue and must be addressed as soon as possible in order to avert a 21 percent cut in physician reimbursement beginning June 1, 2010. These cuts could prompt doctors to leave the Medicare program, jeopardizing care and placing seniors at risk. Seniors must be assured that they will not face difficulties accessing providers under Medicare.

The measure also extends the enhanced Federal Medical Assistance Percentages (FMAP) provisions for six months. The added revenues will allow states to continue to provide benefits to low-income seniors, as well as provide health insurance for those who have become unemployed due to the recession. At a time when states continue to experience large budget shortfalls, it would not be prudent to suspend these payments, which have a direct impact on the life of many older Americans.

Passing H.R. 4213 is needed legislation and we urge you to vote for it.

Sincerely yours,

Barbara J. Easterling  
President

Ruben Burks  
Secretary-Treasurer

Edward F. Coyle  
Executive Director